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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/879,594 | 06/12/2001 | Roy Edward Creek | GJ-222J | 3621 |
| 7590 | 08/02/2004 | | EXAMINER | |
| Iandiorio & Teska 260 Bear Hill Road Waltham, MA 02451-1018 | | | THOMSON, WILLIAM D | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2123 | |

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | 09/879,594 | CREEK, ROY EDWARD |
| Examiner | Art Unit | |
| William D. Thomson | 2123 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2001.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-3 have been presented for examination.
2. Claims 1-3 have been rejected.

Priority

3. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).

Claim Objections

4. Claims 2 and 3 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors. Examples include: "aspheric screen being such that it is not a surface of revolution about an axis....such that it is straight in cross sectional view ", from claim 1, visual display apparatus when

including", from claim 2, and "a simulator when including visual display apparatus according to claim 2", from claim 3.

6. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The multiple use of the phrase of "being such that" in the context of the claim language including "if" and "not" condition renders the claims indefinite since one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. In general the claims are confusing and indefinite due to the language constructs used to formulate the claims. The claim language has been afforded interpretation based upon the indefinite nature of the claims.

Claim Interpretation

7. The broadest and most reasonable interpretation has been afforded the claims. Claims 1-3 have been interpreted as a visual display screen where an image is projected or displayed on the surface having three sections, where two sections are curved and one section is flat, the flat section is disposed between the two curved sections and where the combined three part screen is used in a simulator.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

9. Claims 1-2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Redington et al. Redington et al. provides an explicit teaching of a flat center section having curved sections on either side of the flat section for a projection screen. See abstract, figures 2 (parts 11 and 10), and 7 (parts 21 and 20), col. 2, lines 63 et seq., and col. 4, lines 41 et seq.

10. Claims 1-3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Yoshimatsu et al.(195). Yoshimatsu et al.(195) explicitly teaches the use of three separate sections, where a flat section is interposed between two curved surfaces for use in a simulator. For exemplary teachings see abstract, figures 11-13, col. 3, lines 8-49, and col. 6, lines 18 et seq, specifically read col. 6, lines 53 - col. 7, line 3.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure on the accompanying P.T.O 892. Examiner has further reviewed the European search report for EP 01 30 4993, and has made of record the best prior art uncovered in that search.

Contact Information

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William D. Thomson whose telephone number is 703-305-0022. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-3:30 Tuesday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska can be reached on 703-305-9704. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



William Thomson
Primary Examiner
T.C. 2100